
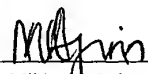


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BT  
8-9-02

PATENT  
Docket No. 360842008300

<b>CERTIFICATE OF HAND DELIVERY</b>	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being hand filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office in Washington, D.C. on August 6, 2002.	
	 Mildred L. Ayim

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Masahiro KIHARA et al.

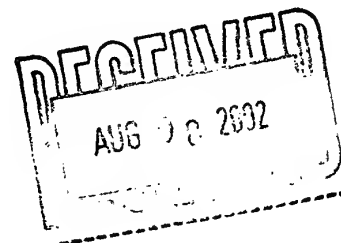
Serial No.: 10/058,100

Filing Date: January 29, 2002

For: DESALINATION METHOD AND  
DESALINATION APPARATUS

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Group Art Unit: 1723



**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:



Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicants submit for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the documents are also submitted herewith. The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☒ Within three months of the application filing date or before mailing of a first Office Action on the merits; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.

The documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 were cited in a Search Report (copy attached) directed to a counterpart international or foreign application.

Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO-1449, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

The information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing 360842008300.

Dated: August 6, 2002

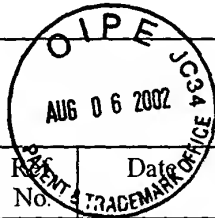
Respectfully Submitted,

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Form PTO-1449 <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b> <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>	Docket Number: <b>360842008300</b>	Application Number: <b>10/058,100</b>
	Applicant <b>Masahiro KIHARA et al.</b>	
	Filing Date: <b>January 29, 2002</b>	Group Art Unit: <b>1723</b>
	Mailing Date: <b>August 6, 2002</b>	



## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Ref. No.	Date	Document No.	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Ref. No.	Date	Document No.	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation YES NO
	1.	4/8/1999	WO 99/16714	PCT			
	2.	4/1/2001	WO 01/14256	PCT			
	3.	6/3/1997	JP 09 141260	JP			abs.
	4.	84/24/2001	JP 2001 113274	JP			abs.
	5.	8/13/1996	JP 08 206460	JP			abs.
	6.	4/25/1987	JP 62 091287	JP			abs.
	7.	5/1/1996	EP 0 709 130	EUROPE			

## OTHER DOCUMENTS

*(including author, title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*

Examiner Initials	Ref. No.	Title
	8.	A.M. Hassan et al., "A new approach to membrane and thermal seawater desalination process using nanofiltration membranes (Part 1)," 1998 Vol. 118, no. 1-3, pages 35-51
	9.	A.M. Hassan et al., "A demonstration plant based on the new NF-SWRO process," 2000 Vol. 131, no. 1-3, pages 157-171
	10.	M. A. K. Al-Sofi et al., "Optimization of hybridized seawater desalination process," 2000 Vol. 131, no. 1-3, pages 147-156

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TC 1700

EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not the citation conforms with MPEP 609. Draw a line through the citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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